AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph on page 1, lines 1-6, and replace it with the following paragraph:

The present invention concerns the identification and the synthesis of a peptide, derived from the basic human fibroblast growth factor (bFGF), having the following primary structure:

Asp-Pro-His-Ile-Lys-Leu-Gln-Leu-Gln-Ala-Glu

hereafter referred to as PEP1 (SEQ ID NO: 1).

Please delete the paragraph on page 4, lines 18-29, and replace it with the following paragraph:

In the present invention, by investigating protein structure, regions of bFGF sequence potentially responsible of its biological activity have been identified. Among these regions, a peptide having the following primary structure:

Asp-Pro-His-Ile-Lys-Leu-Gln-Leu-Gln-Ala-Glu

(SEQ ID NO:1; here referred to as PEP1), derived from human bFGF turned out to be a strong inhibitor *in vitro* of bFGF, PDGF-BB and fetal calf serum (FCS) effects, such as cell proliferation and migration observed in primary rat smooth muscle cells (RASMC) and primary bovine endothelial cells (BAEC). Said activity has been observed at a dose as low as 10 nanograms/milliliter and PEP1 is not toxic at this dose *in vitro*. The heat-denatured and the scrambled version (with random aminoacid sequence) of PEP1 were used as control: both do not show any activity.